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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Albania

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
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Army

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1. The bulk of the Albanian Army is organized into three infantry divisions, of seven to eight thousand men each, equipped with arms of Russian manufacture. Each division is composed of three regiments of infantry and one regiment of artillery.
2. The headquarters of 1 Division, commanded by Colonel Peqi, is at Argirokastro. Headquarters of 2 Division, commanded by Colonel Nexhip Velcani, is at Korce. Headquarters of 3 Division is at Tirana.
3. Each divisional artillery regiment consists of three battalions of artillery and one company of 107 mm. mortars. Each battalion includes a machine gun company.
4. The Army possesses both medium and heavy artillery, with pieces ranging in character from 75/13 mm. to 205/15 mm. Pieces of the latter type are of Russian manufacture.
5. Heavy, long-range pieces have been mounted along the Adriatic coast, some of which are probably of a caliber larger than 205/15. The following coastal emplacements can be listed on the basis of present information:
  - a. Sarande - five pieces, caliber 205/15.
  - b. Shen Vasil - five pieces, caliber 205/15.
  - c. Himare - five pieces, caliber 205/15.
  - d. Logora - eight pieces, caliber 205/15.
  - e. Karaburun - three pieces, caliber 205/15.
  - f. Saseno Island - number and caliber of pieces unknown.
  - g. Fusha e Sopikut - three pieces, caliber 205/15, and six pieces, caliber 75/13.

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h. Jergucat - seven pieces of heavy caliber.

#### Defensive Construction

6. The work of fortifying Saseno Island, Vlone, and the Karaburun peninsula continues, although the exact nature of the defenses being erected is not known. In Vlone itself, rumors that the Russians are constructing V-1 and V-2 launching platforms on Saseno continue to be current, although unconfirmed.
7. Near the Greek frontier, defenses consist of trenches, artillery and machine gun emplacements. The artillery emplacements are located about six to ten kilometers behind the border itself. Anti-tank trenches are constructed about four meters wide and six meters deep. One of these runs across the Dropull plain on the Dervican-Libohove-Lunxheri line, another on the Sofratike-Nepravishte line, and a third on the Jergucat-Nepravishte line.
8. No defenses of the above types are being prepared in northern Albania near the Yugoslav frontier. The only measures taken after the rupture of relations with Yugoslavia was a reinforcement of the frontier guards; before the rift only a few symbolic road-blocks had been maintained on the frontier. At the present time, the number of guard posts is twice that of the pre-1945 period, and each one is manned by 30 to 40 soldiers. Each guard post, in addition to its complement of rifles, is equipped with one light mortar, and one heavy and one light machine gun. Guard posts on the Greek frontier have the same equipment, but are generally manned by not more than 15 men each.
9. Security measures are most stringent in the zones of Vlone, Karaburun, Ujt e Ftetit, and Saseno Island. The coast is carefully patrolled between Sarande and Durres; it is not heavily patrolled in the areas from Durres north to the Yugoslav border, except at Potok and Shengjin.

#### Depots

10. Tirana, Berat, and Elbasan have deposits of arms and munitions of Italian, German, Russian and Czechoslovak manufacture. Depots formerly located at Librazhi have been removed to Elbasan because of danger of attack by nationalist guerrillas. Oil and gasoline is stored at Durres. Russia, however, has not sent either gas or oil to Albania; on the contrary, since the rift with Yugoslavia, the major part of the production of Kucova has gone to the Soviet Union.

#### Police

11. The Divisione Mbrojte e Popullit (DMP), composed of 13,000 men, is organized into four regiments, one of which has headquarters at Shkoder and another at Delvine.
12. A division of ordinary police, composed of eight to ten thousand men stationed throughout the country, has its headquarters in Tirana.

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